

-3-

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A medical drape comprising:

a backing layer having a first surface and a second surface, where projecting from the first surface of the backing layer is ~~an~~ a soft and flexible array of stems which are integrally formed with the backing layer;

wherein at least a portion of the exterior surface of the stems comprises an elastomeric material selected from the group consisting of anionic triblock copolymers; thermoplastic elastomers based on halogen-containing polyolefins; thermoplastic elastomers based on dynamically vulcanized elastomer-thermoplastic blends; thermoplastic polyether ester and polyester based elastomers; thermoplastic elastomers based on polyamides or polyimides; ionomeric thermoplastic elastomers; hydrogenated block copolymers in thermoplastic elastomer interpenetrating polymer networks; thermoplastic elastomers made by carbocationic polymerization; polymer blends containing styrene/hydrogenated butadiene block copolymers; polyacrylate-based thermoplastic elastomers; natural rubbers; butyl rubbers; EPDM rubbers; silicone rubbers; polyisoprenes; polybutadienes; polyurethanes; ethylene/propylene/diene terpolymer elastomers; chloroprene rubbers; random and block styrene-butadiene copolymers; random and block styrene-isoprene copolymers; acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymers; and mixtures and copolymers thereof;

wherein the aspect ratio of the stems on the first surface of the backing layer is at least about 1.25; and

wherein the drape has a static coefficient of friction when dry along at least a portion of the first surface of at least 0.6.

2. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein the stems are generally upstanding.

3. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein the elastomeric material is thermoplastic.

-4-

4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein the static coefficient of friction when wet is within 20 percent of the static coefficient of friction when dry.

6. (previously presented) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein the static coefficient of friction when wet is within 80 percent of the static coefficient of friction when dry.

7. (previously presented) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein the static coefficient of friction when wet is within 90 percent of the static coefficient of friction when dry.

8. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein protruding from the second surface of the backing layer is a second array of stems.

9. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 further comprising a second backing layer adjacent to the second surface of the first backing layer, where projecting from the second backing layer is a second array of stems.

10. (original) The medical drape of claim 9 wherein at least a portion of the exterior surface of the stems of the second array comprises an elastomeric material.

11. (original) The medical drape of claim 9 further comprising a reinforcing layer disposed between the first and second backing layers.

12. (original) The medical drape of claim 11 wherein the reinforcing layer is a nonwoven scrim material.

13. (original) The medical drape of claim 11 wherein the reinforcing layer is a woven scrim material.

14. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 further comprising a reinforcing layer adjacent to the second surface of the backing layer.

-5-

15. (original) The medical drape of claim 14 wherein the reinforcing layer is a nonwoven scrim material.
16. (original) The medical drape of claim 14 wherein the reinforcing layer is a woven scrim material.
17. (original) The medical drape of claim 14 further comprising a second backing layer adjacent to the reinforcing layer, where projecting from the second backing layer is a second array of stems.
18. (original) The medical drape of claim 17 wherein at least a portion of the exterior surface of the stems of the second array comprises an elastomeric material.
19. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 further comprising micro-channels between the stems along at least a portion of the exterior of the first surface of the backing layer.
20. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein the density of the stems on the first surface of the backing layer is at least 15.5 stems/cm².
- 21-22. (canceled)
23. (original) The medical drape of claim 1 wherein the elastomeric material further comprises at least one antioxidant.
24. (currently amended) A medical drape comprising:
a backing layer having a first surface and a second surface, where projecting from the first surface of the backing layer is a soft and flexible an array of stems which are integrally formed with the backing layer;
wherein the aspect ratio of the stems on the first surface of the backing layer is at least about 1.25; and
wherein the drape has a static coefficient of friction when dry along at least a portion of the first surface of at least 0.6.

-6-

25. (Currently amended) A medical drape comprising:

a backing layer having a first surface and a second surface, where projecting from the first surface of the backing layer is ~~an~~ a soft and flexible array of 15.5 to 1500 upstanding stems per centimeter squared which are integrally formed with the backing layer;

wherein at least a portion of the exterior surface of the stems comprises an elastomeric material with a Shore hardness of less than about 90A;

wherein the aspect ratio of the stems on the first surface of the backing layer is at least about 1.25;

wherein each stem has a maximum cross sectional dimension of 0.076 to 0.76 mm; and

wherein the drape has a static coefficient of friction when dry along at least a portion of the first surface of at least 0.6.

26. (Previously presented) The medical drape of claim 25, wherein the elastomeric material has a Shore hardness of less than about 50 A.

27. (Previously presented) The medical drape of claim 25, wherein the drape has a dynamic shear strength of at least 112,034 dynes per centimeter squared.